

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1 to 20 are pending. Original Claims 1 to 12 are present. New Claims 13 and 14 are drawn to the embodiment shown in Figure 3. New process Claims 15 to 20 are added.

The Abstract has been supplied.

Proposed new Figures 9 to 11 show the end weakened zones. The specification has been amended to describe new Figures 9 to 11.

The priority benefit paragraph has been inserted on page 1 of the specification.

The enclosed proposed drawing containing new Figure 9 shows the two weakened zones 20a that each are located in the border area of one of the side edges of the front side of packing unit 16 of the embodiment shown in Figure 3 and new Figures 10 and 11 show the two weakened zones 20a that each spans one of the side edges of packing unit 16 of the embodiment shown in Figure 3. The Examiner is requested to review and enter new Figures 9 to 11. Applicants believe that no new matter is involved.

Applicants generically disclose the weakened zones being located (at least partly) anywhere around the circumference of the filling cavity (i.e., numeral 21a in Figure 3). The application states:

“According to the invention this is achieved by the film-like laminate material being multilayer and at least one material layer of the laminate has no weakened zones and at least one material layer of the laminate has weakened zones and the weakened zones on the packing lie at least

partly in the area of the filling cavity." [Emphasis Supplied] [Page 2, lines 8 to 13]

"The weakened zone can be located over the filling cavity of packing, or over the filling cavity and extend to within a sealed edge or side seam." [Emphasis Supplied] [Page 8, lines 2 to 5]

"...the weakened zones on the packing lie at least partly in the area of the filling cavity." [Emphasis Supplied] [Claim 1, lines 6 to 8]

See also page 2, lines 35 and 36, and Claim 7, lines 9 to 12.

Applicants disclose that a weakened zone can be located on the side edge and both of the area borders of the side edges. No new matter is involved.

The application states:

"In relation to the cross section of the packing unit the weakened zone suitably lie on one or both side edges." [Emphasis Supplied] [Page 10, lines 15 to 17]

"The weakened zones 20b lie on one of the side edges...." [Emphasis Supplied] [Page 13, lines 4 and 5]

Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary, (1963), states:

"on...1 a...(5): in the direction or area of..." [Page 589]

The application further states:

"The weakened zones 20 lie at the side edges...." [Emphasis Supplied] [Page 2, lines 1 and 2]

Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary, ibid., states:

“at...1- used as a function word to indicate presence or occurrence in, on or near” [Page 55]

The application states:

“...the weakened zones on the packing lie in a line...in the area of an edge border....” [Claim 2, lines 1 to 3]

“...the weakened zones on the package lie in the area of an edge border....” [Claim 3, lines 1 to 3]

“...the weakened zones are arranged in an area of a transverse edge border....” [Claim 4, lines 4 and 5]

Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary, ibid., states:

“edge...2a: the line where an object or area begins or ends; *also*: the narrow adjacent part: border” [Page 263]

“border...1: an outer part or edge” [Page 97]

“area...4a: a particular extent of space or surface or one serving a special function” [Page 47]

Figure 2 and its written description shows weakened zones 20 that are located on the side edges and both of the areas/borders of the side edges. The application states:

“Parallel to a transverse seam 17 over the full width 21 are several weakened zones 20.” [Emphasis Supplied] [Page 11, lines 36 to 38]

The top view of Figure 2 has the lead line number 21 in contact with the back of packing unit 16. The cross-sectional view along line A—A of Figure 2 shows the lead line of numeral 21 on one of the sides of packing unit 16. The side has a flat

section so the weakened zone 20 extends beyond the edge (line) towards the front side of packaging unit 16. The cross-sectional view along line B—B of Figure 3 shows that each side has a flat section so that each side weakened zone 20a extends beyond the edge (line) towards the front side of packaging unit 16a. This provides disclosure of the subject recitation in Claim 13.

Respectfully submitted,

Dec, 5, 2003
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Appendix